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REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Non-Final Office Action mailed March 16, 2005 ("Office Action"). Claims 1-21 are currently pending.

Allowed/Allowable Claims

Applicants note with appreciation the indication by the Examiner that Claim 21 is allowed and that Claims 6-9 and 20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 6 and 20 have been rewritten in independent format. Claims 6 and 21 have additionally been amended to correct errors in the claim language. With these corrections, Claims 6 and 21 should still be allowed for reasons analogous to the allowance of Claim 20. Accordingly, Claims 6, 20, and 21 should be allowed as should Claims 7-9, dependents of Claim 6.

Amendment To Claim 1

Independent Claim 1 was amended to correct an error in the claim language, but not to overcome cited art.

Section 103 Rejections

Claims 1-5 and 10-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,742,762 issued to Scholl et al. ("*Scholl*") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,539,237 issued to Scholl et al. ("*Sayers*"). Applicant respectfully traverse these rejections. Claim 1 is allowable because *Scholl* and *Sayers*, even when combined, fail to disclose a protocol mediator operable to translate between a first management protocol and a second management protocol. With regards to this limitation, the Office Action points to *Scholl*'s network management proxy agents 15 and network access protocols 16. Office Action, pages 2 and 3. However, this is incorrect because *Scholl*'s network management proxy agents 15 and network access protocols 16 do not translate between a first management protocol and a second management protocol. Rather, *Scholl*'s network management proxy agents 15 and network access protocols 16 convert a Network Management Request (NMR) into a management protocol. See Column 7, lines 5-10 and lines 40-41. It cannot be disputed that a NMR is not a management protocol. *Scholl*, itself recognizes various types of management protocols. See Column 8, lines 47-49 ("Examples of such network management protocols

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include standards such as SNMP, CMIP, and TL1, as well as various proprietary network management protocols".) Therefore, the network management proxy agents 15 and network access protocols 16 do not translate between network management protocols, only between a NMR and a management protocol. For at least this reason, Applicants submit that Claim 1 is allowable over the cited references. Independent Claim 10 and 16 are allowable for analogous reasons as are Claims 2-5, 11-5, and 17-19, dependents of independent Claims 1, 10, and 16.

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CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons and for reasons clearly apparent, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of all pending claims.

If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference or an interview would advance prosecution of this Application in any manner, the undersigned attorney for Applicants stand ready to conduct such a conference at the convenience of the Examiner.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2179 of Siemens Corp.

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CUSTOMER NUMBER 28524
SIEMENS CORPORATION
Intellectual Property Department
170 Wood Avenue South
Iselin, New Jersey 08830
ATTENTION: Elsa Keller, IP Department
Telephone: (732) 321-3026

Respectfully requested,

By: Thomas George
Thomas George
Registration No. 45,740
Attorney for Applicants
Tel: 650-694-5191
Fax: 650-968-4517